

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1           1.    A method of providing on-line certificates of authenticity for  
2               collectibles where a collector has personally witnessed the  
3               collectible being signed comprising the following steps:
  - 4               a.   connecting an originating computer via an online  
5                   communication system to a central computer,  
6               b.   providing information from the originating computer to the  
7                   central computer about a collector and a collectible for which  
8                   the collector seeks to obtain a certificate of authentication in  
9                   order to obtain a user number for the collector and a serial  
10                  number for the collectible from the central computer and  
11                  storing the information about the collector and the collectible  
12                  on the central computer,  
13               c.   printing and providing to the collector a certificate of  
14                   authenticity bearing a serialized hologram with bar code and  
15                   an identical serialized hologram with bar code for attachment  
16                   to the collectible,

17 d. requiring the collector to sign a statement on the certificate  
18 of authenticity that declares, under penalty of perjury, the  
19 information that the collector provided regarding the  
20 collectible is correct.

1 2. A method of providing on-line certificates of authenticity for  
2 collectibles according to Claim 1 further comprising the following  
3 step that occurs after step d:

4 e. allowing users to access information on a collectible that is  
5 stored on the central computer via an online communication  
6 system.

1 3. A method of providing on-line certificates of authenticity for  
2 collectibles according to Claim 1 further comprising the following  
3 step that occurs after step d:

4 f. allowing a subsequent purchaser of the collectible to register  
5 their ownership of the collectible by connecting their  
6 computer via an online communication system to a central  
7 computer and providing information to the central computer  
8 about the subsequent purchaser.